



State of Connecticut  
SENATE

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March 22, 2013

Dear Senator Coleman, Representative Fox, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am State Senator Michael McLachlan, and I am here today to speak in strong support of Senate Bill 123, *An Act Repealing the Risk Reduction Credit Program*.

The Risk Reduction Program should have never been implemented in the first place. It is dangerous public policy that has only led to recidivism of criminal behavior and incarceration. According to the Office of the Victim Advocate, in the first month of the program, 33.9% of inmates were re-arrested for committing crimes.

On June 27, 2012, I, like many Connecticut residents, was horrified to learn that a 70-year-old Meriden business owner was shot and killed in his Meriden convenience store. The man arrested for that murder, Frankie "The Razor" Resto, was able to earn 199 days of risk reduction credits while serving time for a robbery conviction.

We have a responsibility to protect the public safety of Connecticut citizens. We failed to do so on the day we passed the Risk Reduction Credit Program, and we failed to do so on June 27, when one of our citizens was gunned down in his own business by a Risk Reduction Credit Program inmate.

Thousands of violent inmates have been released under the Risk Reduction Credit Program since it began in October 2011, making our communities less safe and opening the opportunity for more violent crimes in our state.

Senate Bill 123 would disqualify inmates convicted of violent crimes from receiving credits, as they currently do. We need to act before another violent crime takes place and another family is devastated.

I urge you to pass this legislation so my constituents can live in a safer Connecticut.

Thank you.